

**Fifth Report of Michael Maher to the St. James Evangelization Board on the Topic of Increasing Parish Membership, prepared for the 4 June 2016 Board Meeting: Parish Survey**

**155 surveys returned [126 parishioners (78 paper + 48 online), and 29 students (17 paper + 12 online)].**  
**50% and above 30-49% 20-29%**

The survey was distributed at Mass and through email to parishioners and students 10-24 April 2016. The online version was free through Survey Monkey but did not contain some questions. A review of the demographics of the online version and the paper version showed that paper skewed older and higher for Black/Afro respondents while online skewed younger and White/Euro. Neither was completely representative, but combined they gave a pretty representative sample; although, it does appear that the representation by Black/Afro is slightly higher than the actual reality on Sunday mornings. Also, female respondents were over-represented among students. Still, having 155 returns is very high, giving high confidence that the results are representative of the parish and campus ministry.

There need to be some cautions on reviewing results. One is that people do not always express how they really feel or what they are really likely to do. This survey should be *one* tool used by the parish in moving forward, not the only guide. Also, sometimes people do not select items because they take them for granted. For example, few people selected “book clubs/discussions” as a desired activity, and yet we know that these have been pretty successful in the past with Fr. Bob and also before his time here. Also, we see the priorities of the people who are here, not the people who have tried us out and moved on to somewhere else. For example, very few people indicated that physical elements of the worship space were important, but we know that some people do not come to St. James because this is an area that is lacking. Most likely, for those for whom the physical worship space is important, they have chosen to worship somewhere else.

Remarkably, gender and race played very little role in responses. Student-or-Parishioner, age, and length of time in the parish (all related) were the strong variables in predicting responses.

**General Demographics**

The following tables give a glimpse of St. James. It is predominantly female. It is not a young population, and the 25-to-40 group is especially small. If it weren't for the student population, the “under 25” population would only be 4%. The parish is predominantly a mix of White/Euro and Black/Afro people with a small population of Asians, Latino/as, and people identifying as mixed race. There is greater diversity of racial identification among students than among parishioners. A significant number, especially of the students, were not born in the United States (1/8 of parishioners and 1/3 of students). Nearly half of parishioners have been members for more than 15 years. About a quarter never would have attended Mass in the old church building; Mass in the hall is all they know. For the strong majority of students, St. James is the nearest parish. This is not true for the majority of parishioners; they have made a deliberate choice to come here.

| <b>Gender</b> | <b>Parishioners<br/>(N=124)</b> | <b>Students<br/>(N=28)</b> |
|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Male          | 31%                             | 39%                        |
| Female        | 69%                             | 61%                        |

| <b>Age</b> | <b>Total (includes college students)<br/>(N=153)</b> |
|------------|--|
| Under 25   | 22%  |
| 25 to 40   | 12%  |
| 41 to 60   | 22%  |
| Over 60    | 44%  |

| <b>How long have you been attending Mass at St. James?</b> | <b>Parishioners (N=74) (Paper only)</b> |
|--|---|
| Under 5 years  | 23%                                     |
| 5 to 15 years  | 31%                                     |
| 15+ years  | 46%                                     |

| <b>What do you feel best describes you?</b> | <b>Total (N=148)</b> | <b>Parishioners (N=119)</b> | <b>Students (N=29)</b> |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| White/European/European Descent             | 40%                  | 39%                         | 41%                    |
| Black/African/African Descent               | 44%                  | 48%                         | 28%                    |
| Hispanic/Latino/a                           | 1%                   | 2%                          | 0                      |
| Asian/Pacific Island/Asian Descent          | 9%                   | 7%                          | 17%                    |
| Biracial/multi-racial                       | 5%                   | 3%                          | 14%                    |
| Other (not specified)                       | 1%                   | 1%                          | 0                      |

| <b>Were you born in the United States?</b> | <b>Parishioners (N=70)</b> | <b>Students (N=29)</b> |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Yes  | 87%                        | 66%                    |
| No   | 13%                        | 34%                    |

| <b>Is St. James the closest Catholic church to your home or residence hall?</b> | <b>Parishioners (N=123)</b> | <b>Students (N=29)</b> |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Yes   | 38%                         | 79%                    |
| No  | 62%                         | 21%                    |

| <b>What do you feel best describes you?</b> | <b>Total (N=141)</b> | <b>Parishioner (N=124)</b> | <b>Student (N=17)</b> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Catholic                                    | 94%                  | 94%                        | 94%                   |
| Returning Catholic                          | 4%                   | 3%                         | 6%                    |
| Non-Catholic                                | 1%                   | 1%                         | 0                     |
| Converted Catholic                          | 1%                   | 2%                         | 0                     |

## **Liturgy**

It is very clear that the current Mass schedule is the preferred schedule. Also, 72% of student respondents indicated they prefer Mass at St. James rather than IIT. 100% of parishioner respondents indicated they prefer Mass at St. James rather than IIT. If there were going to be a third Mass added, it's clear the best time would be Saturday afternoon. This raises questions, however. In the past two years, there have been some attempts to add a third Mass that was specifically aimed at attracting students. The data suggest, however, that students prefer to attend the morning Masses on Sundays at St. James. Adding a third Mass on Saturday would be a major investment of resources, especially if the quality is to match Sunday morning Masses (a problem we had with the student Masses). Also, given that the 11:30am Mass is small, a Saturday afternoon Mass is likely to be even smaller. On the other hand, adding a Saturday afternoon Mass would likely increase the October count, but probably not by much.

We do need to recognize that we have had many changes in the Mass schedule over the last two years, which has likely been a challenge to growth. We had 9:30am and 11:30am, then 9:30am only, then 9:30am and 7pm, then 9:30am and 11:30am, then 9:30am and 11:30am and 4pm, and back to 9:30am and 11:30am—all in two years.

When looking at what people most want in liturgy, there are some differences between the students and the parishioners. Preaching focused on the scriptures and a friendly community are very important to parishioners, but less so to students. Students are looking for preaching that relates to their lives personally more so than parishioners. Both groups want to celebrate diversity, preaching that addresses social concerns, and participatory music. As pointed out above, it is surprising how low the aspects of the physical space were rated; this most likely cannot be something ignored moving forward. We know anecdotally that shortcomings of our physical space are a turn-off for many people seeking a place to worship.

Similarly to the Mass schedule, we have had many changes in presiders, with very different preaching styles. In less than three years, we had Fr. Edward, then Archabbot Lambert for six months, then Fr. Edward for five months, then Fr. Bob for 18 months, then Fr. Innocent for two months, and now Fr. John—and some hodge-podge periods between some of these. With preaching topics and styles being an area of interest, this frequent change has probably been hard on Mass attendance.

| <b>What do you believe are the best times for weekend Masses at St. James?</b> | Total (N=147) | Parishioners (N=118) | Students (N=29) |
|--|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Saturday 4pm   | 28%           | 30%                  | 21%             |
| Saturday 7pm   | 10%           | 8%                   | 17%             |
| Sunday 8am   | 12%           | 12%                  | 14%             |
| Sunday 9:30am  | 87%           | 96%                  | 69%             |
| Sunday 11:30am   | 53%           | 53%                  | 55%             |
| Sunday 4pm   | 13%           | 11%                  | 21%             |
| Sunday 7pm   | 3%            | 3%                   | 3%              |
| Sunday 9pm   | 3%            | 2%                   | 7%              |

| <b>What's most important in Sunday Mass is...</b>         | TOTAL (N=137) | Parishioners (N=109) | Students (N=28) |
|---|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| A space the looks like a Catholic church                  | 12%           | 12%                  | 11%             |
| A clean space   | 7%            | 6%                   | 11%             |
| Comfortable and attractive seating                        | 5%            | 5%                   | 7%              |
| Rituals, music, and art that celebrate cultural diversity | 31%           | 36%                  | 11%             |
| Gospel music  | 8%            | 6%                   | 14%             |
| Catholic music  | 4%            | 3%                   | 11%             |
| A combination of types of music                           | 20%           | 21%                  | 18%             |
| Music that invites people to sing along                   | 25%           | 25%                  | 25%             |
| Preaching that welcomes and embraces women                | 2%            | 3%                   | 0               |
| Preaching that welcomes & embraces gay/LGBT people        | 7%            | 7%                   | 1%              |
| Preaching that addresses problems in our society          | 32%           | 30%                  | 39%             |
| Preaching that celebrates cultural and racial diversity   | 21%           | 21%                  | 21%             |
| Preaching that is scholarly                               | 7%            | 6%                   | 11%             |
| Preaching that relates to my life personally              | 20%           | 18%                  | 29%             |
| Preaching that focuses on the scriptures                  | 30%           | 34%                  | 14%             |
| Preaching that is doctrinally correct                     | 10%           | 9%                   | 14%             |
| Mass that doesn't go longer than an hour                  | 4%            | 2%                   | 11%             |
| Inclusion of children in the liturgy in a special way     | 6%            | 6%                   | 4%              |
| Has lay people preach and show leadership                 | 5%            | 6%                   | 0               |
| A friendly community, people really know each other       | 30%           | 34%                  | 14%             |
| Time after Mass to socialize with refreshments            | 7%            | 6%                   | 11%             |
| Other: (Eucharist came up three times)                    | 4%            | 3%                   | 7%              |

## **“Branding” the Parish**

One area that local experts in parish growth pointed to is the need to “brand” a parish in order to attract in a population. It is extremely clear that the diversity of the parish (most popularly selected as “multicultural”) is how the parishioners and students see the identity of St. James. 89% of respondents (N=142) selected at least one of the following: Black-and-White-together (6%); multicultural (46%); multi-ethnic (19%); multi-racial (20%); inclusive (22%). The next most important element was friendliness of the parish. Helping the needy and the food pantry came in after that. A significant difference between parishioners and students was that few students selected “great liturgy parish,” but this was important for parishioners. As mentioned above, the student liturgies over the last two years have had some problems with quality, which probably explains this. What was also interesting was that the terms “Black” and “African-American” did not ring strongly with parishioners, even though 44% of respondents identified as Black/Afro. Of the Black/Afro respondents (N=65), only 17% selected one or more of the following terms: African-American Parish (5%); Historically Black parish (6%); Black-and-White together parish (8%). The terms “liberal,” “progressive,” “conservative,” and “traditional” did not ring strongly with any group. The term “university parish” did not ring strongly even with students.

| <b>How would you <i>most like</i> to complete this sentence? Saint James is a...</b> | Total<br>(N=143) | Parishioners<br>(N=117) | Students<br>(N=26) |
|--|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| African-American parish  | 4%               | 3%                      | 8%                 |
| Historically Black parish  | 1%               | 1%                      | 4%                 |
| Black-and-White-together parish  | 6%               | 4%                      | 12%                |
| Multicultural parish   | 46%              | 46%                     | 46%                |
| Multi-ethnic parish  | 19%              | 21%                     | 8%                 |
| Multiracial parish   | 20%              | 22%                     | 12%                |
| University parish  | 5%               | 3%                      | 15%                |
| Young adult parish   | 1%               | 0                       | 4%                 |
| Senior-friendly parish   | 8%               | 5%                      | 19%                |
| Child-friendly parish  | 5%               | 3%                      | 15%                |
| Social Justice parish  | 12%              | 14%                     | 4%                 |
| Food Pantry parish   | 16%              | 15%                     | 19%                |
| Help-the-needy parish  | 19%              | 19%                     | 27%                |
| Gospel music parish  | 8%               | 6%                      | 15%                |
| Great liturgy parish   | 17%              | 19%                     | 8%                 |
| Scholarly parish   | 1%               | 0                       | 4%                 |
| Inclusive parish   | 22%              | 21%                     | 31%                |
| Lay-leadership parish  | 1%               | 1%                      | 0                  |
| Small parish   | 17%              | 16%                     | 23%                |
| Friendly parish  | 34%              | 32%                     | 46%                |
| Everybody-knows-everybody parish   | 10%              | 10%                     | 8%                 |
| Progressive parish   | 8%               | 7%                      | 12%                |
| Liberal parish   | 3%               | 3%                      | 4%                 |
| Traditional parish   | 4%               | 3%                      | 12%                |
| Conservative parish  | 1%               | 0                       | 4%                 |
| Other  | 1%               | 2%                      | 0                  |

## **Programs and Socials**

Students and parishioners were alike in their strong interest in community service, social justice, and single-day retreats. Parishioners were interested in Bible study and faith sharing, but students did not have strong interest in these. Students also wanted programs specifically for students and young adults. As

mentioned above, the low score for book clubs/discussions was a bit of a surprise, given that we have had success with these. Again, this may simply be a case of people taking them for granted.

There was an extreme lack of interest in programs to reach out to the Chinese community. Given that, in about ten years, the neighborhood will likely have about as many Chinese people as African-Americans, this is likely something that the parish cannot ignore. According to the Pew Research Center, 8% of Chinese-Americans are Catholic (<http://www.pewforum.org/2012/07/19/asian-americans-a-mosaic-of-faiths-overview/>), and 5% of African-Americans are Catholic (<http://www.pewforum.org/2009/01/30/a-religious-portrait-of-african-americans/>).

The fact that zero parishioners selected “programs specially for college students” does raise some concerns. Do the parishioners simply take the campus ministry for granted, as we assume to be the case for some other things, or are the parishioners not fully committed to the idea of campus ministry as an important apostolate of the parish?

In the area of socials, the strong preference is for simple things after Mass on Sunday. After that, socials that bring in money for the parish or bring in new people are popular. While live music is popular, full meals and alcohol are not. Parishioners are very willing to pay for socials, while college students were not so much. (College students would like alcohol, and would like it to be free, which is not a surprise—but also not going to happen. Nice try kids!)

| <b>Types of faith formation I would like to see are...</b> | <b>TOTAL<br/>(N=140)</b> | <b>Parishioners<br/>(N=113)</b> | <b>Students<br/>(N=27)</b> |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Single-day retreats  | 29%                      | 27%                             | 37%                        |
| Overnight retreats   | 9%                       | 7%                              | 19%                        |
| Programs that meet weekly                                  | 6%                       | 5%                              | 7%                         |
| Single-session programs                                    | 14%                      | 15%                             | 7%                         |
| Programs specially for college students                    | 6%                       | 0                               | 30%                        |
| Programs specially for young adults                        | 15%                      | 13%                             | 22%                        |
| Programs specially for youth                               | 6%                       | 5%                              | 7%                         |
| Programs specially for couples                             | 6%                       | 7%                              | 4%                         |
| Programs specially for parents                             | 3%                       | 4%                              | 0                          |
| Programs specially for children                            | 8%                       | 10%                             | 0                          |
| Programs specially for seniors                             | 12%                      | 15%                             | 0                          |
| Programs to address social justice concerns                | 29%                      | 30%                             | 22%                        |
| Programs that involve community service                    | 36%                      | 32%                             | 52%                        |
| Programs to go deeper into theology                        | 14%                      | 14%                             | 15%                        |
| Programs to study the Bible                                | 29%                      | 32%                             | 13%                        |
| Programs to reach out to the Chinese community             | 1%                       | 1%                              | 0                          |
| Programs to address gender topics                          | 4%                       | 4%                              | 0                          |
| Programs that welcome gay/LGBT people                      | 9%                       | 9%                              | 7%                         |
| Programs to address racial concerns                        | 8%                       | 7%                              | 11%                        |
| Book clubs or book discussions                             | 10%                      | 12%                             | 0                          |
| Programs involving theater or film                         | 11%                      | 13%                             | 0                          |
| Faith-sharing groups                                       | 21%                      | 23%                             | 15%                        |
| Other  | 1%                       | 2%                              | 0                          |

|  | <b>Parishioners<br/>(N=108)</b> | <b>Students<br/>(N=17)</b> |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| I don't mind having to pay something to go to a social | 80%                             | 41%                        |
| I prefer socials that are free or potluck              | 20%                             | 59%                        |

| The types of socials that most interest me are...            | Total<br>(N=144) | Parishioners<br>(N=117) | Students<br>(N=27) |
|--|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Simple, after Mass so I can talk to other parishioners       | 60%              | 61%                     | 59%                |
| Socials on Fridays or Saturdays                              | 13%              | 12%                     | 15%                |
| Socials that are large & invite in people outside the parish | 35%              | 38%                     | 22%                |
| Socials that bring in money for the parish                   | 47%              | 52%                     | 26%                |
| Socials that include a full meal rather than snacks          | 13%              | 12%                     | 15%                |
| Socials that include alcohol                                 | 11%              | 9%                      | 19%                |
| Socials that include live music                              | 31%              | 32%                     | 26%                |
| Socials specifically for college students                    | 2%               | 2%                      | 4%                 |
| Socials specifically for young adults                        | 6%               | 6%                      | 7%                 |
| Socials that have activities for children                    | 14%              | 15%                     | 7%                 |
| Other  | 2%               | 3%                      | 0                  |

### Newcomers versus Old-timers

The question of how long one had been a member of the parish was not in the online version. Students are not being considered in this area, so this leaves a sample of 76 respondents. So, who is joining the parish these days? First of all, it is a largely White/Euro population, and distinctively not a very Black/Afro population. The strong majority are not from the parish boundaries. Interestingly, half are over 60. This brings up a point that one local Chicago expert in parish growth has made; “new people” does not have to be “young people.” A parish can grow with older adults. Newcomers value the diversity of the parish just as longtime members do, but they are more likely to include gay/LGBT people in that. They value the friendliness of the parish and the concern for the poor, just like longtime members. They are *much* more likely to be attracted by the quality of the liturgy. The physical quality of the worship space (“looks like a Catholic church”) is much more important for longtime members than for newcomers. As mentioned above, about a quarter of people, all those who have been here for five years or less, never attended Mass in the old church building. Despite being majority White/Euro, parishioners here for less than five years are much more likely to identify St. James as an “African-American parish.”

The challenges to accessibility we have faced over the last two and a half years (having neither a working lift nor a ramp) are particularly concerning, given the age of our population. We do know anecdotally that some seniors have stopped coming because of the lack of access. We also know anecdotally that lack of physical accessibility impacts not only the disabled parishioner, but also the family; one extended family of about eight people has mostly stopped coming to St. James because the matriarch of the family cannot climb stairs, and they wish to attend Mass with her somewhere where she can get it.

| What do you feel best describes you? | Under 5 Years<br>(N=16) | 5 to 15 years<br>(N=23) | 15+ Years<br>(N=34) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| White/European/European Descent      | 63%                     | 35%                     | 18%                 |
| Black/African/African Descent        | 25%                     | 48%                     | 82%                 |
| Hispanic/Latino/a                    |                         |                         |                     |
| Asian/Pacific Island/Asian Descent   |                         | 17%                     |                     |
| Biracial/multi-racial                | 6%                      |                         |                     |
| Other (not specified)                | 6%                      |                         |                     |

| Age      | Under 5 Years<br>(N=17) | 5 to 15 years<br>(N=23) | 15+ Years<br>(N=36) |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Under 25 | 6%                      | 9%                      | 0                   |
| 25 to 40 | 6%                      | 13%                     | 3%                  |
| 41 to 60 | 35%                     | 30%                     | 17%                 |
| Over 60  | 53%                     | 48%                     | 81%                 |

| Is St. James the closest Catholic church to your home or residence hall? | Under 5 Years<br>(N=17) | 5 to 15 years<br>(N=23) | 15+ Years<br>(N=35) |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Yes  | 24%                     | 30%                     | 54%                 |
| No   | 76%                     | 70%                     | 46%                 |

| How would you <i>most like</i> to complete this sentence? Saint James is a... | Under 5 Years<br>(N=17) | 5 to 15 years<br>(N=23) | 15+ Years<br>(N=36) |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| African-American parish   | 19%                     | 0                       | 6%                  |
| Historically Black parish   | 0                       | 0                       | 3%                  |
| Black-and-White-together parish   | 6%                      | 0                       | 8%                  |
| Multicultural parish  | 19%                     | 75%                     | 44%                 |
| Multi-ethnic parish   | 31%                     | 19%                     | 14%                 |
| Multiracial parish  | 13%                     | 19%                     | 31%                 |
| University parish   | 0                       | 6%                      | 3%                  |
| Young adult parish  | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   |
| Senior-friendly parish  | 0                       | 0                       | 8%                  |
| Child-friendly parish   | 0                       | 0                       | 6%                  |
| Social Justice parish   | 19%                     | 6%                      | 14%                 |
| Food Pantry parish  | 13%                     | 13%                     | 17%                 |
| Help-the-needy parish   | 19%                     | 13%                     | 22%                 |
| Gospel music parish   | 0                       | 6%                      | 3%                  |
| Great liturgy parish  | 31%                     | 31%                     | 8%                  |
| Scholarly parish  | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   |
| Inclusive parish  | 19%                     | 31%                     | 14%                 |
| Lay-leadership parish   | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   |
| Small parish  | 13%                     | 24%                     | 11%                 |
| Friendly parish   | 31%                     | 44%                     | 28%                 |
| Everybody-knows-everybody parish  | 6%                      | 6%                      | 14%                 |
| Progressive parish  | 13%                     | 6%                      | 8%                  |
| Liberal parish  | 6%                      | 0                       | 3%                  |
| Traditional parish  | 0                       | 0                       | 3%                  |
| Conservative parish   | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   |
| Other   | 0                       | 0                       | 0                   |

| What's most important in Sunday Mass is...                | Under 5 Years (N=15) | 5 to 15 years (N=19) | 15+ Years (N=30) |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| A space the looks like a Catholic church                  | 13%                  | 5%                   | 23%              |
| A clean space   | 0                    | 11%                  | 3%               |
| Comfortable and attractive seating                        | 0                    | 0                    | 13%              |
| Rituals, music, and art that celebrate cultural diversity | 33%                  | 32%                  | 40%              |
| Gospel music  | 7%                   | 5%                   | 3%               |
| Catholic music  | 0                    | 5%                   | 3%               |
| A combination of types of music                           | 27%                  | 16%                  | 17%              |
| Music that invites people to sing along                   | 20%                  | 32%                  | 20%              |
| Preaching that welcomes and embraces women                | 0                    | 0                    | 0                |
| Preaching that welcomes & embraces gay/LGBT people        | 7%                   | 21%                  | 0                |
| Preaching that addresses problems in our society          | 40%                  | 32%                  | 33%              |
| Preaching that celebrates cultural and racial diversity   | 20%                  | 26%                  | 23%              |
| Preaching that is scholarly                               | 13%                  | 0                    | 3%               |
| Preaching that relates to my life personally              | 27%                  | 21%                  | 3%               |
| Preaching that focuses on the scriptures                  | 40%                  | 32%                  | 33%              |
| Preaching that is doctrinally correct                     | 7%                   | 0                    | 10%              |
| Mass that doesn't go longer than an hour                  | 0                    | 5%                   | 0                |
| Inclusion of children in the liturgy in a special way     | 0                    | 11%                  | 7%               |
| Has lay people preach and show leadership                 | 7%                   | 0                    | 7%               |
| A friendly community, people really know each other       | 20%                  | 42%                  | 23%              |
| Time after Mass to socialize with refreshments            | 0                    | 5%                   | 7%               |
| Other: ("inspiring homilies")                             | 0                    | 0                    | 3%               |

### **Looking at Age and Looking at the Black/Afro Community**

Given the fact that many of the people joining St. James are not young, and not Black/Afro, it seemed appropriate to see what kinds of programs people want, based on age, and also taking a closer look at the Black/Afro community. It is important to point out that 54% of the Black/Afro population at St. James is age 60+. The data in this section examines only parishioners, not students. Single-day retreats are very popular with people over 40, but not with younger people (with the exception of students, as described above). Social justice and community service are important for all the groups, especially community service with the middle-aged (which might be part of what has attracted them here). People under 40 want programs specifically for young adults; *also* seniors very much want programs *specifically for seniors*. Faith-sharing is popular for all groups, especially those under 40. Bible studies are popular for those over 40, but not for younger adults. Bible study is especially important to older Black/Afro parishioners. Younger adults are more interested than those over 40 in books, theater, and welcoming gay/LGBT people.



| <b>Types of faith formation I would like to see are...</b><br>(does not include college students) | General Under 40<br>N=20 | General 41-60<br>N=29 | General 60+<br>N=59 | Black/Afro Under 60<br>N=23 | Black/Afro 60+<br>N=27 |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Single-day retreats   | 5%                       | 31%                   | 32%                 | 17%                         | 33%                    |
| Overnight retreats  | 0                        | 17%                   | 5%                  | 22%                         | 7%                     |
| Programs that meet weekly   | 5%                       | 7%                    | 3%                  | 13%                         | 4%                     |
| Single-session programs   | 0                        | 10%                   | 20%                 | 4%                          | 15%                    |
| Programs specially for college students   | 0                        | 0                     | 0                   | 0                           | 0                      |
| Programs specially for young adults   | 25%                      | 7%                    | 10%                 | 17%                         | 15%                    |
| Programs specially for youth  | 0                        | 7%                    | 3%                  | 9%                          | 0                      |
| Programs specially for couples  | 15%                      | 3%                    | 2%                  | 4%                          | 4%                     |
| Programs specially for parents  | 10%                      | 0                     | 2%                  | 0                           | 4%                     |
| Programs specially for children   | 15%                      | 10%                   | 3%                  | 9%                          | 4%                     |
| Programs specially for seniors  | 0                        | 0                     | 29%                 | 0                           | 33%                    |
| Programs to address social justice concerns   | 20%                      | 28%                   | 32%                 | 22%                         | 37%                    |
| Programs that involve community service   | 20%                      | 55%                   | 24%                 | 43%                         | 19%                    |
| Programs to go deeper into theology   | 15%                      | 14%                   | 12%                 | 13%                         | 4%                     |
| Programs to study the Bible   | 15%                      | 34%                   | 32%                 | 26%                         | 48%                    |
| Programs to reach out to the Chinese community  | 0                        | 0                     | 0                   | 0                           | 0                      |
| Programs to address gender topics   | 10%                      | 7%                    | 2%                  | 9%                          | 0                      |
| Programs that welcome gay/LGBT people   | 25%                      | 3%                    | 7%                  | 9%                          | 4%                     |
| Programs to address racial concerns   | 10%                      | 3%                    | 7%                  | 0                           | 15%                    |
| Book clubs or book discussions  | 20%                      | 3%                    | 12%                 | 9%                          | 0                      |
| Programs involving theater or film  | 20%                      | 7%                    | 12%                 | 17%                         | 11%                    |
| Faith-sharing groups  | 35%                      | 21%                   | 19%                 | 22%                         | 19%                    |
| Other   | 0                        | 0                     | 0                   | 0                           | 0                      |

## **Parents**

Nine respondents reported being the parent of children under 19 living at home. This was only asked on the paper survey, with 78 parishioner returns, yielding 12%. This points to the lack of families with children in the parish. Their ages broke down into: 11% under 25; 22% 25 to 40; 55% 41 to 60, and 11% over 60. In short, 2/3 of them are over age 40. There seems to be little expectation of the parish providing things to help them with their children. For the question regarding how to identify the parish, only 22% selected “Child-friendly parish.” For the question regarding what was important in liturgy, only 11% selected “inclusion of children in the liturgy in a special way.” For the question on types of faith formation, none selected “Programs specially for parents.” Only 11% each selected “Programs specially for youth,” and “Programs specially for children.” For the question on social activities, 33% did select the item “Socials that have activities for children.” This may be a case that is similar to the question about the physical worship space. For families who expect a lot of programs for their children, they may have already moved on to other parishes.

## **Looking at Gender**

102 women responded to the survey (64 by paper and 38 online). 50 men responded (30 by paper and 20 online). Three respondents did not identify their gender. What really stands out when looking at gender is how remarkably similar the responses of men and women were. The only real differences were: women are much more likely to live near the parish; women are more interested than men in Bible study; men are more interested in theology; and women are more interested in socials that raise funds for the parish. What is interesting is that zero women selected “preaching that welcomes and embraces women” and only 2% of women indicated they were interested in programs addressing gender topics.

| <b>Is St. James the closest Catholic church to your home or residence hall?</b> | <b>Women<br/>(N=81)</b> | <b>Men<br/>(N=49)</b> |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Yes   | 79%                     | 51%                   |
| No  | 21%                     | 49%                   |

| <b>How would you <i>most like</i> to complete this sentence? Saint James is a...</b> | <b>Women<br/>(N=91)</b> | <b>Men<br/>(N=49)</b> |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| African-American parish  | 4%                      | 7%                    |
| Historically Black parish  | 4%                      | 0                     |
| Black-and-White-together parish  | 4%                      | 7%                    |
| Multicultural parish   | 48%                     | 39%                   |
| Multi-ethnic parish  | 19%                     | 20%                   |
| Multiracial parish   | 22%                     | 11%                   |
| University parish  | 2%                      | 7%                    |
| Young adult parish   | 0                       | 0                     |
| Senior-friendly parish   | 5%                      | 11%                   |
| Child-friendly parish  | 3%                      | 5%                    |
| Social Justice parish  | 13%                     | 11%                   |
| Food Pantry parish   | 11%                     | 18%                   |
| Help-the-needy parish  | 19%                     | 20%                   |
| Gospel music parish  | 8%                      | 5%                    |
| Great liturgy parish   | 16%                     | 18%                   |
| Scholarly parish   | 0                       | 0                     |
| Inclusive parish   | 26%                     | 14%                   |
| Lay-leadership parish  | 1%                      | 0                     |
| Small parish   | 14%                     | 23%                   |
| Friendly parish  | 36%                     | 23%                   |
| Everybody-knows-everybody parish   | 7%                      | 16%                   |
| Progressive parish   | 7%                      | 5%                    |
| Liberal parish   | 3%                      | 0                     |
| Traditional parish   | 4%                      | 2%                    |
| Conservative parish  | 0                       | 0                     |
| Other  | 0                       | 2%                    |

| <b>What's most important in Sunday Mass is...</b>         | <b>Women<br/>(N=83)</b> | <b>Men<br/>(N=45)</b> |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| A space the looks like a Catholic church                  | 11%                     | 13%                   |
| A clean space   | 8%                      | 7%                    |
| Comfortable and attractive seating                        | 5%                      | 7%                    |
| Rituals, music, and art that celebrate cultural diversity | 36%                     | 22%                   |
| Gospel music  | 8%                      | 7%                    |
| Catholic music  | 5%                      | 4%                    |
| A combination of types of music                           | 24%                     | 13%                   |
| Music that invites people to sing along                   | 22%                     | 24%                   |
| Preaching that welcomes and embraces women                | 0                       | 4%                    |
| Preaching that welcomes & embraces gay/LGBT people        | 5%                      | 7%                    |
| Preaching that addresses problems in our society          | 30%                     | 31%                   |
| Preaching that celebrates cultural and racial diversity   | 22%                     | 16%                   |
| Preaching that is scholarly                               | 4%                      | 16%                   |
| Preaching that relates to my life personally              | 24%                     | 16%                   |
| Preaching that focuses on the scriptures                  | 30%                     | 24%                   |
| Preaching that is doctrinally correct                     | 6%                      | 16%                   |
| Mass that doesn't go longer than an hour                  | 2%                      | 4%                    |
| Inclusion of children in the liturgy in a special way     | 4%                      | 2%                    |
| Has lay people preach and show leadership                 | 6%                      | 4%                    |
| A friendly community, people really know each other       | 34%                     | 38%                   |
| Time after Mass to socialize with refreshments            | 5%                      | 9%                    |
| Other   | 2%                      | 4%                    |

|  | <b>Women<br/>(N=81)</b> | <b>Men<br/>(N=41)</b> |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| I don't mind having to pay something to go to a social | 79%                     | 68%                   |
| I prefer socials that are free or potluck              | 21%                     | 32%                   |

| <b>The types of socials that most interest me are...</b>     | <b>Women<br/>(N=89)</b> | <b>Men<br/>(N=27)</b> |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Simple, after Mass so I can talk to other parishioners       | 60%                     | 68%                   |
| Socials on Fridays or Saturdays                              | 9%                      | 20%                   |
| Socials that are large & invite in people outside the parish | 42%                     | 30%                   |
| Socials that bring in money for the parish                   | 57%                     | 25%                   |
| Socials that include a full meal rather than snacks          | 10%                     | 16%                   |
| Socials that include alcohol                                 | 11%                     | 14%                   |
| Socials that include live music                              | 38%                     | 27%                   |
| Socials specifically for college students                    | 2%                      | 14%                   |
| Socials specifically for young adults                        | 7%                      | 18%                   |
| Socials that have activities for children                    | 16%                     | 9%                    |
| Other  | 2%                      | 2%                    |

| <b>Types of faith formation I would like to see are...</b> | <b>Women<br/>(N=87)</b> | <b>Men<br/>(N=113)</b> |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Single-day retreats  | 32%                     | 23%                    |
| Overnight retreats   | 9%                      | 11%                    |
| Programs that meet weekly                                  | 5%                      | 7%                     |
| Single-session programs                                    | 15%                     | 9%                     |
| Programs specially for college students                    | 3%                      | 9%                     |
| Programs specially for young adults                        | 13%                     | 18%                    |
| Programs specially for youth                               | 6%                      | 2%                     |
| Programs specially for couples                             | 6%                      | 2%                     |
| Programs specially for parents                             | 3%                      | 0                      |
| Programs specially for children                            | 8%                      | 2%                     |
| Programs specially for seniors                             | 11%                     | 9%                     |
| Programs to address social justice concerns                | 24%                     | 32%                    |
| Programs that involve community service                    | 36%                     | 34%                    |
| Programs to go deeper into theology                        | 9%                      | 23%                    |
| Programs to study the Bible                                | 32%                     | 18%                    |
| Programs to reach out to the Chinese community             | 0                       | 0                      |
| Programs to address gender topics                          | 2%                      | 7%                     |
| Programs that welcome gay/LGBT people                      | 8%                      | 9%                     |
| Programs to address racial concerns                        | 6%                      | 7%                     |
| Book clubs or book discussions                             | 9%                      | 9%                     |
| Programs involving theater or film                         | 10%                     | 9%                     |
| Faith-sharing groups                                       | 17%                     | 23%                    |
| Other  | 2%                      | 0                      |